

Message Text

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15 L

ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 INR-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 L-02 OES-03 PRS-01 SAB-01 EB-07 COA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 931

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 267

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, MU, IR

SUBJECT: OMAN-IRANIAN NEGOTIATIONS ON POLLUTION CONTROL AND
FISHERIES

REF: LONDON 644

DEPT FOR D/LOS

1. UNDERSECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS YUSUF AL-ALAWI
RETURNED RECENTLY FROM INCONCLUSIVE TALKS IN TEHRAN RE
PROPOSED BILATERAL AGREEMENT AIMED AT POLLUTION CONTROL
IN STRAITS OF HORMUZ AREA (REFTEL). AL-ALAWI TOLD EMBOFF
THAT GOI HAD REQUESTED ADDITIONAL TIME TO STUDY DRAFT
WHICH, INTER ALIA, CALLS FOR COASTAL STATE DETERMINATION
OF RATHER STIFF POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS.

2. LOCAL SPEAR AND HILL REPRESENTATIVE (SULTAN'S AMERICAN
LEGAL ADVISORY FIRM WHICH DREW UP OMANI PROPOSAL)
ATTRIBUTES LACK OF PROGRESS TO BUREAUCRATIC SLIPPAGE OR
INCOMPETENCE ON PART OF IRANIANS. DESPITE FACT THAT
PROPOSAL PROVIDED IN ADVANCE OF FEBRUARY MEETINGS, GOI
HAD NOT FOCUSSED ON ISSUES AND CAME TO SESSIONS PREPARED
TO DISCUSS AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD GRANT IRANIANS PERMISSION
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TO FISH IN OMANI WATERS. IRANIAN DRAFT ON LATTER MATTER NOW

UNDER STUDY BY OMANGOV.

3. TWO SIDES WILL MEET IN MUSCAT SOMETIME IN APRIL FURTHER
TO DISCUSS BOTH PROPOSALS.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT OMANGOV WILL BE PREPARED
TO GRANT GENERAL FISHING CONCESSIONS TO IRANIANS OR ANY
OTHER FOREIGN POWER. HOWEVER, FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF FISH-
ERIES QUESTIONS IN RECENTLY DEMARCATED STRAITS OF HORMUZ MIGHT
BE POSSIBLE.
ZWEIFEL

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NNN

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